

RESIDENTIAL DISABILITY PARKING ZONES IN THE CITY OF SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA

Eligibility

There are a few basic requirements that all requests for disability parking zones must meet to be considered eligible. First of all, the citizen requesting the zone must have either a disability license plate or a disability parking certificate. It is also necessary that the request have its basis in a parking problem. ***Zones will not be installed where: a) off-street parking is available and accessible to the disabled person, b) there is on-street parking generally available or c) if the traffic division determines there already exists one or more zones nearby that is accessible to the disabled person.*** In addition, the proposed location of the zone must be in front of the disabled person's home. Zones will not be created at the homes of friends or relatives of the disabled person. Since the zones are put in only where a parking space shortage exists, it does not make sense to locate zones where they will be empty much of the time. Limiting the zones to locations where they will be frequently used avoids the chance of irritating a person's neighbors. Finally, if the disabled person is a tenant, zones will not be installed without the consent of the owner of the property (limit of 30' or 35' zone per building). Again, the purpose is to prevent hostile feelings toward the disabled person or the zone.

“If I ask to have the zone put in, will it be for my use only?”

No. This is a common misconception. Anyone possessing a disability license plate or disability parking certificate can park in any disability zone in the city.

“Must I own a car?”

No. Many disabled people who do not own cars need zones which they use as pick-up/drop-off points. However, having the zone empty too much of the time in an area where parking is difficult may cause irritation to other drivers.

“There is a parking restriction in the spot where I would like to have a zone. Can I still get one there?”

If the spot is signed for anything but NO PARKING ANYTIME, a zone may be installed. However, in areas governed by other no parking restrictions, if a zone is installed, the restrictions will still remain in effect. This applies to snow removal routes, rush hour no parking zones, and no parking posted for street maintenance or cleaning. In areas with limited time parking (for example, 30 MINUTE PARKING), a person having a valid disability parking certificate or disability license plate may park for as long as necessary whether they park in a disability zone or not.

(Over)

“Will the Disability zone irritate the neighbors?”

In requesting a zone, one thing that should be considered is any inconvenience that may result for one's neighbors. In areas where parking space is limited, it can sometimes irritate people to see a disability parking space seemingly always empty. On the other hand, most people will accept a zone if they feel it is used frequently.

“Will the zone cost me anything?”

Yes, the applicant is asked to pay one-half the costs of signing, installing and maintaining the zone. This is a one-time cost. Installation cost to the applicant is approximately \$160.00. (You will be quoted an exact price after your application is received) and must be paid to the City of St. Paul before the zone is installed. You can also pay by VISA, MASTERCARD, DISCOVER or AMERICAN EXPRESS.

“Since I have to pay for one-half of the signs, can I keep them?”

No. The fees paid by the person requesting the zone do not cover the cost of the signs. Those fees cover only the cost of installation and maintenance. The signs and posts remain the property of the City of Saint Paul.

“I believe I am eligible and I would like to apply for a zone. What is the next step?”

Enclosed with this information sheet is a questionnaire/application for you to complete. There is also a space for a sketch if you would like to indicate exactly where you would like the zone placed. Please fill it out and return to:

City of St. Paul
Public Works Traffic Engineering
25 West Fourth St. #800
St. Paul MN 55102

Do not send payment along with your application. An employee will contact you after receiving your application and will quote you the cost of the disability zone at that time.

If you have any questions or need assistance completing the application, please call the Traffic Engineering Division at 266-6200.

RESIDENTIAL DISABILITY PARKING ZONE
****QUESTIONNAIRE****

NAME(S): _____

ADDRESS: _____

TELEPHONE NO (HOME): _____ (WORK): _____

DISABILITY PARKING CERTIFICATE NUMBER: _____

EXPIRATION DATE: _____

DISABILITY LICENSE PLATE NO. (IF APPLICABLE): _____

- Please describe the nature of your disability:

- What is the parking problem and how are you dealing with it?

- Who will use the zone, and how will it be used?

- If you intend to use the zone as a pick-up/drop-off point, approximately how many times per week do you expect the zone to be used?

- Do you anticipate any objection to the zone by neighbors? Why/why not?

- Do you own your home or are you a renter?

(Over)

****IF YOU ARE NOT A RENTER, PROCEED TO THE SKETCH PORTION OF THIS PAGE**

IF YOU ARE A RENTER:

- Approximately how many rental units are in your building?
- Is there a parking lot provided for tenants?
- Are there designated disabled parking spaces in the tenant's parking lot?
- Is there a reason why you cannot use the tenant's parking lot?
Explain:

Property owner signature:_____ Telephone:_____

SKETCH

Draw in a simple sketch to indicate the desired location for the zone, including your preference for a 25' or 30' length. Also show your residence, including any entryways that must be used and the streets which border your residence. (It is also helpful to show any trees, light posts, or signs that may be in place).

Street name:		Street Name:

Street name:

If you have any questions about completing the sketch, please call the Traffic Engineering office at 651-266-6200.